

Through the Blood of Anhōōke

The Siwanoy Ancestry of the Rowe-Powell
Family of Long Island, N.Y.

Robert T. Koehler



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Compiled by

ROBERT T. KOEHLER

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WHO WAS WAMPAGE, ALIAS ANHŌOKE?

Wampage I was the Sagamore (or Chieftain) of the Siwanoys.

Following the elimination of the Pequots by the English in 1636/37, the Wappinger (or Mattabesec) Confederation (a group of Delaware-speaking peoples) consisted of six nations: the Hammonassets, Naugatucks, Quinipiacs, Paugussets, the Uncowas and the Siwanoys. The territory of this confederation ran from well beyond the Connecticut River deep into Dutch territory (New Netherlands), including what today are Bronx and Westchester Counties, New York, where the Siwanoys were installed. Over this Mattabesec Confederation was a paramount chief named Romaneck (sometimes called "Joseph" by the English), a warrior whose authority none dared to challenge. He had an only daughter, Prasque, and she became the bride of the Chief of the Siwanoys, Wampage I.

Wampage I was also sometimes called "Ann Hook" or Anhōōke, because he was lord of the territory by that name (Anne's Hoeck, now called Rodman's Neck), where in 1643 he and his tribesmen killed Anne Hutchinson, the famous English separatist, and her fellow colonists. It has been written that Wampage himself was the murderer of Hutchinson, and that he adopted a form of her name in accordance with a Mahican custom. The only survivor of the massacre was Anne's nine year old daughter Susanna Hutchinson, who may have been spared because of her red hair. Susanna was taken captive by the Siwanoys, and remained with them for nearly five years, eventually bearing Wampage I a son - Ninham-Wampage, who would become Wampage II. When Susanna was later found by Dutch settlers, she had forgotten her own language and was hesitant to leave the tribe. She later moved to Boston, and married John Cole.

Not long after the 1643 massacre, Wampage became a close friend of Thomas¹ Pell (first Lord of Pelham Manor), who was the Indian Commissioner in Fairfield, and they concluded much business together. Wampage and three other sagamores sold 9,160 acres of land to Pell in 1654, including what is now Pelham Bay Park in the Bronx, and on March 10, 1658, he and Commissioner Pell negotiated the definitive treaty between the English and the Siwanoys, whereby their respective positions were delineated. (The Siwanoys remained in the area for another hundred years, until they eventually "melted away" by intermarriage with the English settlers. Around 1756, the remaining Wappinger and Mahicans in the area joined the Nanticoke, and with them were finally merged into the Delawares.)

Thomas¹ Pell died without heirs in 1669, and Pelham Manor passed to his nephew, Sir John Pell, who became second Lord of Pelham Manor. In 1676, Sir John negotiated a Treaty of Peace with Wampage, which kept the Mattabesec Confederation out of King Philip's War. Unfortunately, John's contemporaries - including Major Nathan Gold, chief magistrate at Fairfield, Connecticut - were inclined to disregard treaties and engagements made with local tribes. Major Gold believed that the English held all Indian lands by right of conquest and that contracts of sale between Indians and the English had no validity. To make his position clear, when the elderly Wampage I came to Fairfield, formerly his capital, to collect on a bill of sale of lands to residents of the town, Major Gold had him beaten and thrown into jail. Sir John Pell intervened to have him released on his surety, and it was in subsequent conversations between John and Wampage that the decision was taken to appeal to the Privy Council, the highest legal body in England. This decision was motivated on John's part by the fact that if the Gold doctrine was

maintained, his rights in Pelham, which his uncle Thomas¹ bought from Wampage, might fall.

In the Spring of 1678, Sir John and his wife set out for London to represent Wampage before the Privy Council. The Council ruled in Wampage's favor on March 28, 1679, denouncing Gold's "evill practices" and finding that "not only [Wampage] but all such Indians of New England as are [the British monarch's] Subjects and submit peaceably and quietly to his Government shall likewise participate of his Royall Protection". The order was received at Hartford on May 17, 1680, and Wampage I died soon afterwards, anguished over the continued refusal of the English colonial magistrates to bow to any authority other than their own. (By the time of his death, Wampage I had been baptized, taking the name of John White, and his wife that of Anna White. Privy Council records refer to him as John Wampus alias White.)

Although the burial site of Wampage I is not definitively known, one source suggested that he was buried underneath a mound on the northern coast of Rodman's Neck. Nonetheless, we do know that he was buried in a traditional way, among his people, in his ancestral homeland.

Wampage I is known to have fathered two children.

John Wampage White, son of Wampage I by his wife Prasque, married Elizabeth French; their children were Elizabeth, Mary and Nathaniel White.

Ninham-Wampage, son of Wampage I by Susanna Hutchinson, inherited his father's name and title and became Wampage II, Sachem of Ann Hook. Throughout his chieftaincy, he deeded additional lands to the trustees of Westchester, often using the name Ann-hook. Wampage II was the father of Anna (or Ann), who grew up on Hunter Island in Wampage II's stockade settlement. Around 1700, Anna married Thomas² Pell, third Lord of Pelham Manor and son of Sir John.

Anna and Thomas² had a total of twelve children:

1. Joseph Pell (1701 – 1752), fourth Lord of Pelham Manor; m. Phoebe Palmer
2. John Pell (1702 – 1773); m. ----- Totten
3. Thomas³ Pell (1704 – 1753); m. Dorothy Ward
4. Joshua Pell (1710 – ?)
5. Caleb Pell (1712 – 1768); m. Mary Ferris (? – 1772)
6. Mary Pell (1718 – ?); m. Samuel Sands (1690 – 1764)
7. Phoebe Pell; m. ----- Treadwell
8. Anne Pell; m. Batlesque Samuel Bradhurst (1700 – 1755)
9. Bathsheba Pell; m. Theophilus Bartow (1710 – 1779)
10. Sarah Pell; m. Benjamin Palmer
11. Philip Pell; m. Phoebe Fitch
12. David (? – 1735)

THE WAMPAGE – ROWE PEDIGREE

Showing the alliances with the Manor of Pelham and the descent of the Rowe-Powell family of Long Island, N.Y., from Wampage I, Chieftain of the Siwanoys.

1. WAMPAGE I, alias Anhōōke, was the Chieftain and Sagamore of the Siwanoys, and Sachem of Ann Hook; slayed Anne Hutchinson and her fellow colonists in 1643, except for nine year old Susanna Hutchinson, who remained in Siwanoy captivity for nearly five years, during which time she bore the chieftain a son; sold 9,160 acres of land along Long Island Sound to Thomas¹ Pell, first Lord of Pelham Manor, in 1654; he m. bef. 1660 to Prasque, dau. of Romaneck, paramount Chief of the Wappinger Confederacy; d. before Jul 1681; possibly bur. Rodman's Neck, Bronx, N.Y. Wampage and Prasque were baptized later in life, taking the names John and Anne White.
2. WAMPAGE II, alias Ninham-Wampage and Ann-hook, son of Wampage I by Susanna Hutchinson, a Siwanoy captive, was the Chieftain of the Siwanoys and Sachem of Ann Hook; b. between 1644 and 1650; d. after 1705; resided on Hunter Island; inherited his father's name and title; wife unknown.
3. ANNA, dau. of Wampage II, was raised on Hunter Island, where her father had a stockade settlement; m. abt. 1700 to Thomas² Pell, third Lord of Pelham Manor, son of Sir John Pell and Rachel Pinckney; he was b. 1675/76 at Pelham Manor, and d. Sep or Oct 1739, and his will, dated 3 Sep 1739, was probated in 1752.
4. MARY PELL, dau. of Anna and Thomas² Pell; b. abt. 1718; m. Samuel Sands, son of Samuel Sands and Dorothy Ray; he was b. 1690, d. 1764.
5. SARAH SANDS, daughter of Mary Pell and Samuel Sands; b. 1734; m. 28 Oct 1755 in N.Y. to Thomas¹ Powell, son of Solomon¹ Powell and Ruth Carman; he was b. 1733, d. 1781.
6. SOLOMON² POWELL, son of Sarah Sands and Thomas¹ Powell; b. 1756; m. 14 Sep 1793 in N.Y. to Susannah Smith.
7. THOMAS² POWELL, son of Solomon² Powell and Susannah Smith, was a farmer and carpenter; b. 1802; d. 2 Feb 1871 in N.Y.; bur. Springfield, Queens, N.Y.; will probated 6 Jul 1871, Queens County; m. Ann Stratton, dau. of William and Charity Stratton; she was b. 9 Mar 1812, Manhattan, N.Y., and d. 2 Aug 1882, Jamaica, N.Y.
8. THOMAS STRATTON POWELL, son of Thomas² Powell and Ann Stratton, was a grocer and Postmaster of Springfield Store, Queens, N.Y.; b. 3 Feb 1843, Springfield, Queens, N.Y.; d. 27 Dec 1899, Cedarhurst, N.Y.; m. 22 Oct 1861 to Sarah Elizabeth Eldredge, daughter of Clinton Eldredge and Catherine Moyer; she was b. 17 Oct 1840, Leesville, Schoharie Co., N.Y., d. 14 Sep 1907, Cedarhurst, N.Y. Both bur. Trinity Cemetery, Hewlett, N.Y.
9. SARAH ELIZABETH POWELL, daughter of Thomas Stratton Powell and Sarah Elizabeth Eldredge; b. 2 Apr 1877, Springfield, Queens, N.Y.; d. 23 Jul 1960, Baldwin, N.Y.; m. 29 Jul 1896 at Brooklyn, N.Y., to James Rowe Rowe, son of William Henry Rowe and Rosa Dickinson; he was b. 12 Sep 1871, Great Gaddesden, Hertfordshire, England, and

d. 10 Mar 1944, Cedarhurst, N.Y. They resided at Hempstead in 1910; Central Ave., Cedarhurst in 1915; Mabry Lane, Lawrence in 1920; McManus Ave., Lawrence in 1925; 257 Cedarhurst Ave., Cedarhurst, in 1940. Both bur. Trinity Cemetery, Hewlett, N.Y.

Their Children:

- i. WILLIAM JAMES ROWE; b. 15 Sep 1897; d. 29 Sep 1897.
- ii. ANN STRATTON ROWE; b. 23 Feb 1900, Lawrence, N.Y.; d. 24 May 1972, North Bellmore, N.Y.; m. 3 Jul 1925 at Trinity Church, Manhattan, N.Y., to Charles Alexander Koehler, son of Charles Koehler and Catherine Pfister. Both bur. L.I. Nat'l Cemetery, Farmingdale, N.Y.
- iii. WILLIAM HENRY ROWE; b. 21 Dec 1905; d. 3 Apr 1913.
- iv. SARA ELIZABETH ROWE; b. 18 Sep 1907, Cedarhurst, N.Y.; d. 17 Mar 1990, Tampa, Fla.; m. 14 Jul 1966 in N.Y. to James I. Laufer; bur. Trinity Cemetery, Hewlett, N.Y.

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Generation 8 – 9 Birth, death and marriage records, and family bible register, in the possession of Robert T. Koehler, Tampa, Fla.

Showing the descent of the Rowe-Powell Family of Long Island,
N.Y., from Wampage I, alias Anhōōke, Sagamore of the Siwanoys,
and Susanna, daughter of Anne Hutchinson, with references and
biography of Wampage I.

